

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of : (Docket 1005-AGGUS3)  
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AGGARWAL, Lalit K. :  
:  
International Appln. No. PCT/US99/11500 :  
:  
International Filing Date 25 May 1999 :  
:  
For: **METHOD AND ASSOCIATED** :  
**APPARATUS FOR THE** :  
**STANDARDIZED GRADING OF** :  
**GEMSTONES** :

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

As a preliminary matter, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Page 1: insert the following paragraph starting at line 1:

-- This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/085,797,  
filed May 28, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,020,954. --

**In the Claims:**

Cancel Claims 2-29. ✓

**REMARKS**

This application is the U.S. national phase of international patent application No. PCT/US99/11500, filed on May 25, 1999. The international application claims priority from U.S. Application No. 09/085,797, filed May 28, 1998, which claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/068,033, filed December 18, 1997. The foregoing amendment to the specification is necessary to meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §119(e). No new matter is added to the application by the amendment because the claim for priority based on the U.S. application was clearly set forth in the Request for the international application. Therefore, the amendment is purely administrative.

It is respectfully requested that the above amendment be entered prior to the first official action on this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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